

Comparison of a WKCE mathematics item and a Smarter Balanced mathematics item

Grade 4: Assessing basic operations

From testing only recall and basic computation...

...to assessing problem solving and higher order thinking.

Look at the number sentence below.

$$6 \times 4 = \square$$

Which of these does not make the number sentence true?

- (A) 12×2
- (B) $12 + 12$
- (C) $24 \div 1$
- (D) $24 - 4$

WKCE

9

Drag one number into each box to complete the subtraction problem shown.

0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

Delete

$$\begin{array}{r} 50\square 6 \\ - \square 48\square \\ \hline 16\square 8 \end{array}$$

Smarter
Assessment

Comparison of a WKCE reading item and a Smarter Balanced reading item

Grade 4: Assessing reading comprehension

- 1** This passage is mainly about
- Ⓐ making friends with others
 - Ⓑ children helping their parents
 - Ⓒ learning to get along together
 - Ⓓ being happy with what you have

- 2** How much time does it take for the events in this story to occur?
- Ⓐ a few days
 - Ⓑ several weeks
 - Ⓒ several months
 - Ⓓ many years

From low level comprehension and “right there” multiple choice questions...

WKCE

(Questions based on a short, unseen reading passage)

8

Read this sentence from the passage.

When you peer over the edge into the gorge below, you feel your heart beating quickly and a shiver runs through you.

Which **best** describes why the author uses the sentence above?

- A) to satisfy the reader’s curiosity about what it is like to visit the Grand Canyon
- B) to share the experience of looking down from the top of the Grand Canyon
- C) to excite the reader about the history and danger of the Grand Canyon
- D) to prepare the reader for a Grand Canyon adventure in the future
- E) to explain that the famous Grand Canyon is very old

...to assessing higher order thinking and inferential problem solving.

Smarter Assessment

(Questions based on a short, unseen reading passage)